

From: Davis, Kelly
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 11/20/01 1:23pm
Subject: Anti-Trust settlement

Dear Sirs:

I read with great dismay the continuing effort of the Justice Departments efforts to settle with Microsoft. I realized that the United States is at a critical juncture internationally and politically, but I am having a hard time understanding why the Justice Department thinks it is such a good idea to settle with Microsoft at this particular point in time.

The thing I am concerned about is that the only thing Microsoft has ever been inventive at was in finding new ways to destroy their competitors. They are a company that has been built upon the premise that they own, or can buy or steal any type of innovation that comes along. Far from being the most innovative company in the 20th century they are the late twentieth century equivalent of "Robber Barons." They are good at marketing and they are good at recognizing what it is most consumers are willing to live with. What they are not, however, is innovative.

As lawyers who work for a pro business government you must see Microsoft as a wonderful panacea for the future of the United States. As a software engineer who programs using Microsoft tools, on a platform that Microsoft designed, over a network that Microsoft is striving to own, I see Microsoft as a monopolist bent on making my life more difficult.

By agreeing to settle with Microsoft you, who should know better, have inadvertently given Microsoft the ability to track more personal data about people in the United States than the U.S. census has ever known. This is what we get with .NET technology.

Please reconsider the settlement with Microsoft. It is a bad idea. It is bad for America. It is bad, even, for Microsoft.

Kelly Davis